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July 10*th.*

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

A letter was read from Professor Eschricht, dated Copenhagen, June 7th, 1848, acknowledging the receipt of his notice of election as a Correspondent, and proposing exchanges of the publications of Danish Societies for those of the Academy.

A letter was read from the Rev. Thomas S. Savage, dated Sumterville, Alabama, June 20th, 1849, addressed to Dr. Hallowell, and enclosing an interesting communication on the Driver Ants of Western Africa, intended for publication in the Proceedings. The latter was referred to the following committee: Prof. Haldeman, Dr. Leidy, and Dr. Hallowell.

July 31*st.*

Vice President MORTON in the Chair.

The Committee to whom was referred Dr. Hallowell's description of a new Eryx, from Madras, reported in favor of publication in the Proceedings.

Description of a species of Eryx, from Madras.

BY EDWARD HALLOWELL, M. D.

Eryx maculatus.

Description.—Head of moderate size, depressed, covered with scales, larger in front; rostral plate large, triangular; a single nasal plate on each side; nostril small; thirteen labial plates margin the upper jaw; pupil vertical, eye surrounded by a circular series of plates; iris brownish red; neck of same size as head posteriorly; body thicker in the middle, becoming somewhat slender towards the tail; scales small, carinated; a row of single plates under the tail, followed by others which are bifid; tail short, truncate, (mutilated?)

Color.—Light brown above, with numerous spots of the same tint but darker; abdomen light slate color.

Observations.—This beautiful reptile was pointed out to me so long ago as 1840, by the late Dr. Harlan. It was brought from Madras, in the neighborhood of which it was found upon a sandy soil. It appeared to be perfectly harmless. The drawing was taken during life by Mr. Richard, and is remarkable for its accuracy. The above short description is made up from it, the notes which were written during its life having been mislaid. It, however, is so good that a description of any kind is almost unnecessary. The entire length was about one foot and a half. I have long hesitated to publish a description of this animal, coming as it does from a part of the British possessions so well known as Madras, but having recently observed in the Annals and Magazine of Natural History, several species of reptiles described by Mr. Gray as new from the same locality, not being found in the British Museum, and differing so entirely as it does from any figure of Eryx hitherto published, I have ventured to present it to the Academy with the name I have given it.